

# The Pensacola Journal

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PENSACOLA, FLORIDA, FRIDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 8, 1905

## Pensions for the Life Savers.

The Memphis Commercial-Appel brings up a very important subject, and one that will receive unequalled endorsement, at least by those living in the vicinity of either the Atlantic or Pacific oceans, the Great Lakes, or the Gulf of Mexico, in the following, which recently appeared in its columns:

In these days of pension-grabbers and more willing pension-givers it is singular that the United States life-saving service has been overlooked.

If anybody deserves the pension it is the widow and children of him who gives his life to save others—not in battle with his fellow-man, dealing and receiving death in bitter strife with one another, but in a brave and manly attempt to rescue his fellow-man from positions of peril occasioned by nature in her fiercest moods.

It is a reflection on the sanity of congress that a pension of this kind is turned down time and again, while every big and little voice among the members of that body stretches itself to the limit to provide pensions for the man behind the instruments of death.

It would be good for the nation to put the present absurd and political pension roll in twain were such a thing possible, but the hucksters in patriotic sentimentality for the sake of fraud would never consent to this; nevertheless, because the list is padded by no reason for withholding worthy and deserving servants of the government the honorarium they are entitled to.

We hope the present congress will find a way to insure the pension to the life-saving brigades, even if it should require an investigation of the army list. And we doubt not, if there should be an investigation honestly and searchingly conducted, frauds would be exposed in numbers quite sufficient to give two pensions to the life-savers out of the funds saved through dropping those who draw without being entitled to these fees.

As the Commercial-Appel well says, if anybody deserves a pension it is the widow and children of a man who gave his life to save others and the fact that the matter has not already been given proper attention by congress, and provision made for the pensioning of life savers permanently injured while on duty, and the families of those who lose their lives in the service, is anything but complimentary to that body.

By lopping off a few of the pension-grabbers who, for years have been fattening at the public trough, enough money could be saved to provide a fund for the benefit of the life savers, who are certainly more entitled to pensions than thousands who are now being supported either wholly or in part, at the expense of the nation.

Meat is said to be higher in Germany than at any time since the cow jumped over the moon.

## Political Shakeup in the Empire State.

Just what political effect the New York insurance investigation will have is rather obscure, although it is conceded that there will be a shake up of some description in the near future. The New Orleans States, discussing the situation, says:

For a period of more than thirty years the state of New York distinguished itself by swinging from one side to the other in politics in the state and national elections with a regularity akin to that of a pendulum. But in 1896 the free silver issue turned the state over to the republicans by enormous majorities which had not been greatly reduced at the last election. However, it now looks very much as if the state were going to return to its old pendulum tactics and swing back to the democracy again.

The life insurance scandals which involve nearly every high republican leader or official in the state, and impinge on the integrity of the supervision of the companies by a republican superintendent of insurance, would be enough to produce a reaction if the democrats nominate for governor a man of strong and clean character. President Roosevelt, it is said, has greatly increased the complications of the political situation by his determination to have both Platt and O'Connell deposed as state leaders. Platt a few years ago apparently abdicated the leadership but is still a power for mischief. Ex-Governor

O'Connell, the present boss of the republican machine in the state, has assumed an attitude of defiance toward President Roosevelt and recently took occasion to remind some of the latter's friends that the republican party in New York was once wrecked by interference from Washington when President Arthur attempted to secure the election of Judge Folger as governor.

But the President does not appear to have been frightened by the recalling of this precedent, but on the contrary we are told that he is going to trample on it and rescue his party in New York from the control of men who have been shown to be grafters and otherwise disreputable. So we may look out for some lively political slugging at Albany this winter and in the election for governor next year.

Many people in Russia predict the downfall of White. Witte is a big man and the little czar would do well to keep from under.

Uncle Joe Cannon is the gentleman on the lid at the present writing.

"WHAT IS TO BE WILL BE."

Perhaps! In our day few people believe, unreservedly, in fatalism. Particularly as regards business affairs, and the minor episodes of life, practical folks have learned that events are as clay in our hands, to be shaped and fashioned as we will.

Charles Dickens makes one of his people, in "Little Dorrit," say: "In our course through life, we shall meet the people who are coming to meet us, from strange places and by many strange roads—and what it is set to us to do to them, and what it is set to them to do to us, will all be done. Be sure that there are men and women already on their roads who have their business to do with you, and who will do it. They may be coming hundreds or thousands of miles over the sea—they may be close at hand now."

This fragment has characteristic power and beauty, but nowadays we must amend it. "What it is set for us to do to them" may, in truth, "all be done"; if, indeed, anything is set for us to do to them or for them to do to us! Of this we have no very strong assurance. We all hope, too, that there may be a long procession of men and women on their roads who have business to do with us, and who will do it—no, we greatly fear that, unless we advertise effectively, many of these people will get into the wrong shops and transact their business with the wrong people!

In fact, if we hide our lights pretty thoroughly we may be sure that these pilgrims will miss us completely—and thus violate the fatalistic creed. But by mixing our fatalism with a liberal amount of want advertising we may be of potent assistance to the Fates in bringing things to pass concerning ourselves—and, if you have noticed the Fates seem to appreciate a helping hand now and then. If it is "set" for you to get a raise of salary, or ordained that you shall live in a better house, or predestined that you should make some money on that real estate of yours you will be surprised to find how effectively a little want advertising will co-operate with Fate in bringing these things to pass!

To Make Florida an Island.

"A canal of great importance which requires construction," writes Austin Bierbower in his article, "Canals We Must Dig," in the Technical World Magazine for January, "is across the northern part of the peninsula of Florida. Such a canal would save 700 miles between New Orleans and New York, and about the same distance between our other Gulf and Atlantic cities. Most vessels between these ports must now go two days out of the way; and, when time is so important and the cost of sea transportation so great, this cannot for ever be endured. Florida is level, and so can be cut without much difficulty or expense; and there are some streams which could be utilized for part of the route."

WHERE THE JOURNAL CAN BE FOUND.

The Pensacola Journal is on sale at the following places in the city:  
 Bay Hotel.  
 Cor's Book Store.  
 Depot News Stand.  
 Geo. Book Store.  
 Merchants Hotel.  
 Southern Hotel.  
 Thompson's Book Store.  
 Walker's Book Store.

## SHAMEFUL VERDICT IN WILLIAMS CASE.

Live Oak Democrat.

It is doubtful if a more outrageous and inexcusable verdict was ever rendered in a murder case in Florida than that in the Williams case in Marianna last Saturday which found the defendant guilty of murder in the first degree and recommended him to mercy.

Not often in any country has a foul crime been committed than that which stains the guilty soul of this man Williams, who some months ago in Pensacola shot to death his aged employer and benefactor, John White, the honored merchant who was sitting unsuspecting at his desk; a moment later killed an unoffending salesman, E. C. Dansby and then shot his employer's son, Jim White, who was fortunately not seriously hurt.

For the murder of Mr. White Williams was found guilty in Escambia county and recommended to mercy and in the other case a change of venue was taken to Marianna with the result above stated. No provocation for the crime was alleged by the defendant's counsel; his sanity was not doubted, but because he had nerved himself with whiskey to commit the double murder, his lawyers urged, in the defense, that he was irresponsible and didn't know what he was doing. Such a plea, of course, has no validity, and the court so charged, but the jury contemptuously spurned the law and recommended the tiger-hearted, blood-stained assassin to mercy. It would be as proper to recommend a rattlesnake to mercy.

Williams is a plain case of a vicious degenerate who had justly forfeited his life, and his escape from the gallows is an evil and ominous triumph over law and justice, disgraceful to the weak-minded, chicken-hearted jury that saved him, and which cannot fail to bring peculiar satisfaction to every murderous-hearted man who hears it. A life sentence generally means a few years in prison and then a pardon.

It would be a blessing beyond price if our jury system could be reformed so that weaklings and scrubs could be eliminated and the administration of the law entrusted only to men of too much character and intelligence to be swayed from their plain duty by the cheap and state devices employed in the Williams case, but there are no indications of any such reform. It is fair to say that five of the jurors were strongly opposed to the recommendation for mercy, but in order to get a verdict they had to yield to the others.

Studying Nature. The thing to aim at in studying the beauties of nature, as is the case with all artistic pleasures, is the perception of quality, of small effects. Many of the people who believe themselves to have an appreciation of natural scenery cannot appreciate it except on a sensational scale. They can derive a certain pleasure from wide prospects of startling beauty, rugged mountains, steep gorges, great falls of water—all the things that are supposed to be picturesque. But, though this is all very well as far as it goes, it is a very elementary kind of thing. The perception of which I speak is a perception which can be fed in the most familiar scene, in the shortest stroll, even in a momentary glance from a window. The things to look out for are little accidents of light and color, little effects of chance grouping, the transfiguration of some well known and even commonplace object, such as is produced by the sudden burst into greenness of the trees that peer over some suburban garden wall or by the sunlight falling by a happy accident on pool or flower.—Cornhill.

Secret Drinking Devices. The sanitarian was for women only—women dipsomaniacs—a luxurious place. The rate was \$125 a week. "This," said the superintendent, "is our museum. Odd, grotesque, eh? The museum was a collection of instruments for secret drinking that had been taken from female dipsomaniacs. There was a carriage clock with a false back that would hold a half pint of whisky; there was a muff with a round flask of India rubber in its hollow inside; a mouthpiece like that on a baby's bottle was hidden under a eucalyptus. The owner of the muff would press it to her face, a very natural and common movement, and at the same time take a stiff drink. There were a dozen sorts of bonbons, candies of all shapes and hues, each containing two or three fingers of brandy. A fan—it would not open—had room for a half pint in it. A number of purses were nothing but whisky flasks covered with beadwork or leather or silver or gold. There was even a prayer book with a flask inside.—New York Press.

Should Not Cage Parrots. "Nature never intended that parrots should be confined in cages," said a bird fancier. "They get gouty feet, become irritable, are liable to fits and convulsions, lose their feathers and pick themselves till they are a mass of mutilated deformity. Confinement and improper diet are the causes of all this. If a parrot gets an irritation of the skin and draws blood while picking himself he will keep on till he is a horrid spectacle. Once tasted, a thirst for blood has been created and will never cease."

"I made a trip to Guinea once, and when I saw the happiness of the birds in a state of freedom I declare my conscience smote me. I saw thousands of them, from the lovely little grass parakeet to the king parrot, and nothing can exceed their grace and delightful expression in the open country."—Milwaukee Free Press.

## THE SOUTHWEST AND THE SENATE

(St. Louis Republic.)

In the four states of Missouri, Arkansas, Texas and Louisiana there was, by the census, in 1900 a population of 8,848,564. Oklahoma and the Indian Territory would add nearly 800,000, making the population of the Southwest this side of the Mississippi river 9,638,555 by the census of 1900, without counting New Mexico and Arizona.

By the same census the population of the six New England states was in 1900 only 5,532,351. And yet New England is represented in the senate at Washington by twelve senators, while the southwest, with a population 70 per cent. greater in 1900, is represented by only eight senators in Washington. If two new states are created of Oklahoma and Sequoyah this part of the southwest will have twelve senators, the same as New England, and on this basis of the census of five years ago 70 per cent. of its population would be still without representation in the senate, as compared with New England.

If the six New England states have at the end of 1905 as many as six millions of people the four states and two territories of the southwest above mentioned have easily twelve millions, and are still growing rapidly. In a decade or two this part of the southwest will be populated by not less than twenty millions of people. If anything like a proportionate growth is to be made in the northeast the reasons for it are not now visible.

If the Twin Territories are admitted as two states the southwest would still have only about one senator in congress to each million of its population, whereas the ratio for New England is about one senator to each half million. The admission of Arizona and New Mexico without any population at all would not nearly equalize the ratio between the two sections. But New Mexico was in 1900 more populous than Delaware and Arizona than Wyoming or Nevada.

Past Reconciliation. In the days of the first settlers in the Chickasaw country, when Davy Crockett still frequented the Big Hatchie, "Old Man Giddins" was a prosperous citizen of the Forked Deer settlement.

One day he started on a trip to Arkansas, and thenceforth for several years Forked Deer knew him no more. As travel in Arkansas was dangerous and as nothing was heard of Giddins, he was officially declared dead by the court and his estate divided among his heirs. A year or so later, however, he turned up and tried to get possession of his property again. He was promptly seized and taken into court.

"What do you mean by coming around here like this, trying to take this property?" roared the court at him. "It's my property," asserted Giddins. "Everybody knows it's mine." "Not at all," replied the judge. "I'll admit your case seems a hard one, but it can't be helped now. This court has decided that you are extinct as a person, which is Latin for dead. This court cannot err! Dead you are. If you want any property around here you must take another name and set to work to earn it. Mr. Sheriff, adjourn this court, and we will go and see that wrestling match you spoke of."

What is an Editor? Some boys in an English school were asked the other day to define "editor." Here are some of their definitions: "An editor is a man who handles words." "An editor makes his living out of the English language." "An editor is somebody who does not do anything himself, and when somebody else does goes and tells other people all about it." "An editor is a man who has the industry of a beaver, the instincts of a bee and the patience of an ass."

The Journal Printed During November 1905, a Total of

150,250 COPIES

or an average of 5,779 DAILY

The following figures show The Pensacola Journal's circulation for each day during the month of November, 1905, with the average number of copies daily:

Nov. 1, 6,100	Nov. 16, 5,750
Nov. 2, 5,700	Nov. 17, 5,700
Nov. 3, 5,750	Nov. 18, 5,700
Nov. 4, 5,750	Nov. 19, 6,100
Nov. 5, 5,900	Nov. 20, 5,750
Nov. 6, 5,750	Nov. 21, 5,850
Nov. 7, 5,650	Nov. 22, 5,750
Nov. 8, 5,600	Nov. 23, 5,700
Nov. 9, 5,700	Nov. 24, 5,700
Nov. 10, 5,700	Nov. 25, 5,700
Nov. 11, 5,700	Nov. 26, 6,000
Nov. 12, 5,900	Nov. 27, 5,750
Nov. 13, 5,750	Nov. 28, 5,750
Nov. 14, 5,850	Nov. 29, 5,750
Nov. 15, 5,850	Nov. 30, 5,750

Total for the month.....150,250

Average per day.....5,779

I hereby certify that the above statement is correct according to the records on file in this office.  
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 Circulation Manager.  
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